likely to be released and sent back to India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) and (b) According to available information there are at present 1221 Indian prisoners in Pakistani jails. The Indian nationals in Pakistan are detained on several grounds, including alleged transgression of local laws or overstay of visa period; apprehensions in the waters in the region where the Indo-Pak maritime boundary is yet to be determined; straying across the IB and LOC, etc. Pakistan does not furnish details of the Indian prisoners lodged in various jails in Pakistan on a case-by-case basis.

Information in respect of Bangladesh is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) 54 missing Indian defence personnel are believed to be in custody in Pakistan. The question of their release has been repeatedly taken up with the Government of Pakistan. These efforts continue. The Government of Pakistan, however, maintain that there are no Indian defence personnel in their custody.

There are no Indian defence personnel in custody in Bangladesh.

(d) and (e) The qeustion of the early release and repatriation of all Indian prisoners under detention in Pakistan and Bangladesh have been taken up with the respective Governments. We would continue to make all efforts at every available opportunity in this regard.

Difficulties in combating terrorism due to lapse of TADA

1081. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether after the lapse of TADA, representations have been received from a number of States and Union Territories regarding the difficulties 'being experienced by them in combating terrorist and disruptive activities;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action, if any, has been taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

Central assitance for maintenance and development of road network in Bihar

1082. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have provided central assistance for the maintenanc and development of road network in the State of Bihar;

(b) if so, what are the year-wise details thereof for the last three years;

(c) whether Government of Bihar have submitted any feedback report to the Central Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Government of India is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways in the country while roads other than Naitonal Highways are the responsibility of the States. Central Government, however, provides assistance to the States for roads of inter-state and economic importance within a limited budget. No assistance to the State of Bihar was, however, provided under the scheme during the last three years.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.